



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Members, State Board of Education

**FROM:** Shawn Sriver, Director, Office of Educator Licensing and Development

**SUBJECT:** Indiana Code 20-28-4-11, Transition-To-Teaching Permits

**DATE:** April 2, 2008

Indiana Code 20-28-4-11, as added by P.L.150-2006 (Senate Enrolled 172), creates a transition-to-teaching permit. The law applies to teaching areas or school corporations designated by the State Board of Education as having an insufficient supply of teachers. The State Board must review the eligible school corporations and subject areas not more than two years following the initial designation. The transition-to-teaching permit program allows superintendents to request a permit for an applicant in the designated subject area or in a designated school corporation if:

- (1) there is no fully certified teacher and highly qualified teacher available for the position; and
- (2) the program participant is the best qualified candidate for the position.

The applicant must be enrolled in a transition-to-teaching program. The permit is valid for three years. At the May 3, 2006, meeting of the State Board of Education, members approved a recommendation for this designation. The current recommendation includes minor additions to the eligible school corporations and retains the subject areas and the alternative for school corporations that are not considered eligible corporations.

### Eligible School Corporations

The following school districts may obtain a transition to teaching permit in any instructional licensing content area:

Anderson Community School Corporation  
Blue River Special Education Cooperative  
Carmel Clay Schools  
Diocese of Fort Wayne  
Diocese of Gary  
Diocese of Lafayette Catholic Schools  
Elkhart Community Schools  
Evansville-Vanderburgh School Corporation  
Fort Wayne Community Schools  
Gary Community Schools  
Goshen Community Schools

Greater Clark County Schools  
Greenfield-Central Community Schools  
Indianapolis Department of Corrections  
Indianapolis Public Schools  
Joint Education Services Indiana Special Education Cooperative  
Kokomo-Center Township Consolidated School Corporation  
LaPorte Community School Corporation  
Logansport Community School Corporation  
Madison Area Education Special Service Unit  
Michigan City Area Schools  
Monroe County Community School Corporation  
MSD Lawrence Township  
MSD Perry Township  
MSD Pike Township  
MSD Warren Township  
MSD Wayne Township  
New Albany-Floyd County Consolidated School Corporation  
Northwestern Indiana Special Education Cooperative  
Office of Catholic Education  
Porter County Education Interlocal  
Richmond Community School Corporation  
School City of East Chicago  
School City of Hammond  
School City of Mishawaka  
South Bend Community Schools

The above school districts were each selected on the basis of the number of emergency permits requested per school district. Each of the school districts above had a minimum of 1% of 2,033 emergency permits issued during the 2005-2006 and 1,857 emergency permits issued during the 2006-2007 school year, or was included on the list of approved schools in 2006.

### **Eligible Subject Areas**

In November 2007, the U.S. Department of Education approved subject areas submitted by Department staff as Indiana teacher shortage areas eligible for consideration for the Paul E. Douglas scholarship. The Department recommends that the State Board recognize the same shortage areas for the transition to teaching permit. Additional school districts will be restricted to the following content areas when requesting a transition to teaching permit:

- Mild Intervention
- Intense Intervention
- Visually Handicapped
- Hearing Impaired
- Mathematics
- Spanish
- Chemistry
- Earth/Space Science
- Life Science

- Physical Science
- Physics
- English as a New Language

### **Alternative for Schools That Are Not Eligible for a Transition to Teaching Permit In a Non-Shortage Area**

School districts not listed among the approved list of transition to teaching permit schools can request from the division of professional standards a transition to teaching permit in a non-shortage area by submitting evidence of one or more of the following:

- (1) A change in student demographics requiring the school to significantly change its instructional program.
- (2) A need for increased emphasis in the requested area to address learning gaps and improve student achievement as identified by ISTEP, AYP, and P.L. 221 results; or
- (3) Proof that the school corporation is a “hard-to-staff” school corporation, as demonstrated by demographic data, including the complexity index of the school corporation or the number or percentage of students in categories that are included in the complexity index.

In addition to the application form and the evidence of one of the three criteria listed above, the school will provide a written plan on how they want to use the candidate.

## **IC 20-28-4-11**

### **Teacher shortage areas; employment of transition to teaching program participants; conditions; transition to teaching permit**

Sec. 11. (a) This section applies only to:

- (1) a school corporation; or
- (2) a subject area;

that is designated by the state board as having an insufficient supply of licensed teachers.

(b) The governing body of a school corporation or the appointing authority of an accredited nonpublic school may employ a program participant if the program participant is hired to teach in a subject area or a school corporation to which this section applies.

(c) Before employing a program participant under subsection (b), the superintendent of the school corporation must make a determination that one (1) of the following conditions exists:

- (1) There is no fully certified and highly qualified teacher available for the position.
- (2) The program participant is the best qualified candidate for the position.

(d) A program participant who is employed under this section is eligible to receive a transition to teaching permit. The transition to teaching permit is valid for three (3) years, and may not be renewed. IC 20-28-5-9 applies to a program participant who applies for a transition to teaching permit.

(e) A program participant who is employed under this section:

(1) shall enter into either:

- (A) a regular teacher's contract under IC 20-28-6-5; or
- (B) a temporary teacher's contract under IC 20-28-6-6, if replacing a teacher on a leave of absence;

(2) is eligible to participate in a mentor teacher program; and

(3) satisfies the field or classroom experience component of the program under section 4(3) of this chapter.

(f) The state board:

- (1) shall review; and
- (2) may renew;

the designation of a school corporation or a subject area as having an insufficient supply of licensed teachers not more than two (2) years following the initial designation under subsection (a). *As added by P.L.150-2006, SEC.2.*